

MATHEWS COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2020
THOMAS HUNTER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM 10;45

Present: Thorpe, Bohn, Broderson
GR Faulkner (zoom)
Drew Greve, Principal, MHS
David Cook, MCPS Maintenance
Major J.T. Williams, MC Sheriff's Office
Nancy Welch, MCPS Superintendent
Lex Foster, Principal, LJES
Willie Love, MC Emergency Coordinator
Laurel Byrd, Principal, THES

Meeting was called to order at 10:30. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss emergency situations, coordination and procedures for election day.

Thorpe pointed out the tension surrounding this year's election. Williams stated that his office receives update 2-3 times daily regarding local election day threats. At this point, no threats have been received.

Power Outages: Love: The Fire Dept. has a portable generator available. THS and LJS have generators and can operate in an emergency. MHS has very limited generator power---will be pitch black.. The emergency trailer has 2-3 portable light towers and cords available for MHS.

Schools are on different main feed lines: LJS & THS are on one line and MHS on a second. This reduces the threat of all 3 schools losing power at once.. VA Power can "split" power feed in an emergency to serve all 3 schools. Love also has canopy tents available.

Procedure for power failure: Precincts call Faulkner, Faulkner calls Love, Love takes charge.

Disruptive Voters:

Due to election day being a state holiday, only 2 MCSD officers will be on duty that day (instead of the usual 5). MCEB can Hire additional officers. Broderson wants more officers on duty. Faulkner stated that State Police are on-call ion the region.

Thorpe was concerned about security at the EB office once precincts are closed. No officer will be available to be stationed at the office, but Williams said one will be in the courthouse area. It was decided to store vital election materials in the THS multi-purpose room overnight. That venue his lockable and has closed

circuit cameras. The canvass Wed. morning will be held in the same venue. Due to COVID/THMS regulations, no unaffiliated observers will be allowed at the canvass.

Bohn referred to Atty. General Herring's election security memo. It was decided that election officers will not confront possible voters carrying guns directly. Officers will immediately call 911 for backup. The same procedure applies to other possible violations outlined in the Herring memo.

Other:

Thorpe suggested the board present a "defusing" letter or article for the newspaper.

Custodians will be on-site when the precincts are prepared on Monday to coordinate opening on election day.

Faulkner will prepare for a possible emergency precinct move. The YMCA is the likely location.

According to new state clarification, EB members are not allowed to man precinct election-day drop off locations. Two election officers (one D, one R) must be assigned by precinct chiefs at these locations at all times.

Training for precinct chiefs will be on 10/22/20 at the old courthouse @ 4:45. Officer of election training will follow via Zoom @ 6:00.

Jeff Bohn, MCEB secretary, 10/19/20